

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A contents distributing apparatus which is connected to an information processing terminal and an output device via a network and transmits and prints
5 out to said output device contents of which a reservation for printing has been made by means of said information processing terminal via said network, said contents distributing apparatus comprising:

storage means, when said information processing
10 terminal accesses to a printing reservation site of said network, thereby making a reservation for printing of contents, for storing reservation information on said reserved contents corresponding to user identification information on said information
15 processing terminal; and

communication means for receiving user identification information transmitted from said output device, reading from said storage means the reservation information on said reserved contents corresponding to
20 the received user identification information, transmitting to said output device the predetermined contents corresponding to the read reservation information and a printing charge according to a printout of the reserved contents, and printing out
25 said reserved contents under the condition that said printing charge is fare-adjusted by said output device.

2. The contents distributing apparatus according

05696095 "102500

to claim 1, further comprising:

site means for establishing the printing reservation site over said network.

3. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

balance storage means for storing a balance for printing out said reserved contents corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

10 accounting means for, when said output device has printed out the contents of which reservation for said printing has been made, subtracting a printing charge according to the printout of said reserved contents from said amount of balance stored in said balance storage means.

4. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output device comprises:

an input device for inputting the user identification information;

20 a cash entry device for entering a cash;

a communication device for transmitting to said contents distributing apparatus the user identification information inputted by said input device and receiving said printing charge and said reserved contents from said contents distributing apparatus; and

25 print means for, when said printing charge received by said communication device has been entered

05696095 102500

from said cash entry device, printing said reserved contents received by said communication device.

5. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

5 a controller for setting a user registration site for newly registering a user at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said user registration site to newly register a new user of a new information
10 processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said new information processing terminal.

6. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

15 a controller for setting an introducing user input item for inputting another user who has introduced a new user, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to input
20 said another user that has introduced the new user, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said another user.

7. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

25 a controller for setting a questionnaire item for inputting answers to questions at said printing

09696095 " 102500

reservation site, and when said answers to questions are inputted at said printing reservation site by means of said information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus
5 corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal that has inputted the answers to questions.

8. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

10 a controller for setting a specification item for specifying printing of advertisement contents at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to specify printing of advertisement
15 contents, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal.

9. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

20 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

25 limitation information storage means for storing limitation information that limits reservation for printing based on user attribute information by each of said contents; and

05696095 " 102500

reservation limiting means for, when said
information processing terminal accesses to said
printing reservation site to make a reservation for
printing, limiting said reservation for printing based
5 on user attribute information corresponding to user
identification information on the information
processing terminal stored in said attribute
information storage means and limitation information
corresponding to the contents stored in said limitation
10 information storage means.

10. The contents distributing apparatus according
to claim 1, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing
distribution limiting information on contents
15 corresponding to said output means; and

distribution limiting means for, when contents are
transmitted to said output device, limiting
distribution of contents to the output device based on
said distribution limiting information stored in said
20 storage means.

11. The contents distributing apparatus according
to claim 1, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing
the user limiting information corresponding to said
25 user identification information;

advertising conditions storing means for storing
advertising conditions of advertisement contents based

05656095 " 102500

on user attribute information; and

advertisement determining means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to make a reservation for printing, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising conditions stored in said advertising condition storage means.

12. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

advertising condition storage means for storing advertising conditions of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

advertisement determining means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising conditions stored in said storage means.

13. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

advertising limitation means for limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in

09696095.102500

said limitation information storage means.

14. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for a contents provider; and

10 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information storage means.

15 15. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

15 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

20 limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information

09696055 102500

storage means.

16. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 period information storage means for storing advertising period information of advertisement contents; and

10 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting advertising to the contents of the advertisement contents that exceed the advertising period based on said advertising period information stored in said period information storage means.

15 17. A contents distributing apparatus which is connected to an information processing terminal and an output device via a network and transmits and prints out to said output device contents of which a reservation for printing has been made by means of said information processing terminal via said network, said contents distributing apparatus comprising:

20 storage means for storing reservation information of the reserved contents corresponding to user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

25 communication means for receiving the user identification information transmitted from said output device, reading from said storage means the reservation information of the reserved contents corresponding to

05696095 102500

the received user identification information, and transmitting to said output device the reserved contents corresponding to the read reservation information.

5 18. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

 site means for establishing the printing reservation site over said network.

10 19. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said output device comprises:

 an input device for inputting user identification information;

15 a communication device for transmitting the user identification information inputted from said input device to said contents distributing apparatus, and receiving the reserved contents corresponding to said user identification information transmitted from said contents distributing apparatus; and

20 a printer for printing said reserved contents received by said communication device.

 20. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

25 identification information generation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, generating identification information by said each reservation for printing; and

05656095 102500

identification information storage means for storing reservation information on the reserved contents, said reservation information being associated with identification information generated by said identification information generation means,

wherein said communication means transmits the identification information generated by said identification information generation means to said information processing terminal, receives the identification information transmitted from said output device, and transmits to said output device the contents corresponding to the identification information when the received identification information coincides with the identification information stored in said identification information storage means.

21. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

accounting information storage means for storing accounting information relevant to printout of contents corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when said output device prints out the reserved contents, updating said accounting information stored in said accounting information storage means.

22. The contents distributing apparatus according

09696095 "102500

to claim 17, further comprising:

balance storage means for storing a balance for
contents printout corresponding to the user
identification information on said information
processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when said output device
prints out the reserved contents, subtracting a
printing charge according to printout of the reserved
contents from said balance stored in said balance
storage means.

23. The contents distributing apparatus according
to claim 17, further comprising:

additive amount storage means for stored an added
amount of money corresponding said advertising
contents;

balance storage means for storing a balance for
printing of contents corresponding to the user
identification information on said information
processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when advertisement contents
are added and printed out by said output device,
reading from said additive amount storage means said
additive amount corresponding to the advertisement
contents, and adding said additive amount to said
balance corresponding to the user identification
information stored in said balance storage means.

24. The contents distributing apparatus according

05050505 102500

to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

search means for establishing a contents search site at said printing reservation site, and causing said information processing terminal to search contents at the contents search site when said information processing terminal accesses to said contents search site.

25. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

cost storage means for storing a printing cost corresponding to printing of contents, wherein said accounting means reads from said cost storage means a printed contents charge and a printing cost every time said output device prints data to calculate the charge, and updates said accounting information corresponding to the user identification information on the information processing terminal stored in said accounting information storage means every time the printing of the printing matter completes.

26. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

a controller for setting a user registration site for newly registering a user at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said user registration site to newly register a new user of a new information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an

005201 550950

amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said new information processing terminal.

27. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

5 a controller for setting an introducing user input item for inputting another user who has introduced a new user, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to input
10 said another user that has introduced the new user, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said another user.

28. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

15 a controller for setting a questionnaire item for inputting answers to questions at said printing reservation site, and when said answers to questions are inputted at said printing reservation site by means
20 of said information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal that has inputted the answers to questions.

29. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

a controller for setting a specification item for

09696095 " 102500

specifying printing of advertisement contents at said
printing reservation site, and when said information
processing terminal accesses to said printing
reservation site to specify printing of advertisement
5 contents, storing in said storage means an amount of
money for bonus corresponding to the user
identification information on said information
processing terminal.

30. The contents distributing apparatus according
10 to claim 17, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing
user attribute information corresponding to said user
identification information;

15 limitation information storage means for storing
limitation information that limits reservation for
printing based on user attribute information by each of
said contents; and

reservation limiting means for, when said
information processing terminal accesses to said
20 printing reservation site to make a reservation for
printing, limiting said reservation for printing based
on user attribute information corresponding to user
identification information on the information
processing terminal stored in said attribute
25 information storage means and limitation information
corresponding to the contents stored in said limitation
information storage means.

096596095 " 102500

31. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing distribution limiting information on contents corresponding to said output means; and

distribution limiting means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting distribution of contents to the output device based on said distribution limiting information stored in said storage means.

32. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing the user limiting information corresponding to said user identification information;

advertising conditions storing means for storing advertising conditions of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

advertisement determining means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to make a reservation for printing, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising conditions stored in said advertising condition storage means.

33. The contents distributing apparatus according

09696095 102500

to claim 17, further comprising:

advertising condition storage means for storing
advertising conditions of advertisement contents
specified for said output device; and

5 advertisement determining means for, when contents
are transmitted to said output device, determining
advertisement contents to be put in the contents based
on said advertising conditions stored in said storage
means.

10 34. The contents distributing apparatus according
to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing
advertising limitation information of advertisement
contents specified for said output device; and

15 advertising limitation means for limiting the
advertisement contents to be put in the contents based
on said advertising limitation information stored in
said limitation information storage means.

20 35. The contents distributing apparatus according
to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing
advertising limitation information of advertisement
contents specified for a contents provider; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when contents
are transmitted to said output device, limiting the
advertisement contents to be put in the contents based
on said advertising limitation information stored in

09696095 "102500

said limitation information storage means.

36. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

5 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

10 advertising limitation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute
15 information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information storage means.

20 37. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

period information storage means for storing advertising period information of advertisement contents; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting advertising to the contents of the advertisement contents that exceed the advertising period based on

09696095 102500

said advertising period information stored in said period information storage means.

38. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

5 print history storage means for storing a print history of advertisement contents printed by said output device by said each user of the information processing terminal; and

10 advertisement selecting means for selecting advertisement contents by referring to the advertisement print history corresponding to the user of the information processing terminal stored in said advertisement print history means.

15 39. A recording medium having a computer readable program code, said recording medium comprising:

20 a computer readable program code for, when an information processing terminal connected to said network accesses to a printing reservation site for reserving printing of contents to reserve the printing of contents, storing reservation information on the reserved contents, corresponding to user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

25 a computer readable program code for receiving user identification information transmitted from an output device connected to said network, reading the reservation information on the reserved contents

09696095 102500

associating with the received user identification information, and transmitting to said output device the contents corresponding to the read reservation information.

09696095 . 102500